

January 18, 2001

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US Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

We are urging you to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Our reasons are as follows:

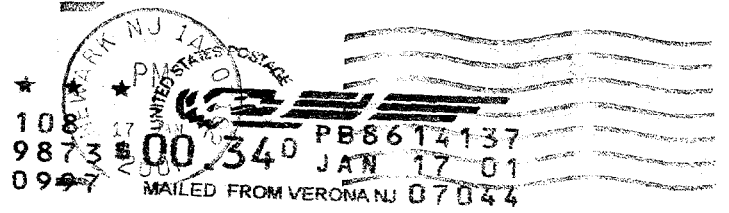
1. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.
2. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE , a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness.
3. It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains
4. Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

98P-0151

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